WEST CENTRAL REGION

Small Business Development Center

2015 HIGHLIGHT

26

New Businesses Created



\$52.6M

Business Revenue

Increased

5,391

Total Hours of Consulting Services





293

Entrepreneurs/ Businesses



Served

763

Jobs Created and Saved



\$33.3M



Capital Accessed for Business Investment

\$7.68



Return on Investment for Every \$1 Invested in the Program

Celebrating Our Students

The West Central SBDC assists clients from start-up to succession planning. We engage students of the Offutt School of Business in many client projects.

West Central SBDC Funding Sources



In 2014, the Minnesota legislature granted the SBDC additional state funds. These funds will sunset in July 2016.





U.S. Small Business Administration

Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and regional support partners. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the program sponsors. Programs are open to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance.

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Small Business Development Center

West Central SBDC Success Story

China Panda – Positive, caring, and determined are words used to describe Angel Li, business owner of China Panda. Angel and her family have successfully secured a bank loan as well as purchased and renovated a former bakery to open the restaurant, China Panda, in Morris, Minnesota. China Panda serves high quality, fresh Chinese food during lunch and evening hours.

Prior to starting China Panda in Morris, Angel and her husband purchased and managed China Panda in Glenwood, Minnesota. With all the college students and limited ethnic restaurants in Morris, she saw a need for a Chinese restaurant in Morris. Angel grew up cooking Chinese food with her family and she wanted to be able to share her talents and love for fresh Chinese food.

After a local lender informed Angel about the West Central Minnesota Small Business Development Center (WC MN SBDC), Angel registered to meet with a consultant. Throughout Angel's consulting experience with the WC MN SBDC, she met with consultants to assist with creating a business plan, marketing strategies, cash flow projections, and other financial documents.



While Angel and her husband purchased and managed a Chinese restaurant in Glenwood, she was not sure how to start a business, create a customer base from scratch, and prepare financial information for bank and community loans. With the help of the West Central Minnesota Small Business Development Center, Angel was able to achieve these milestones.

At the beginning everything seemed new, especially with English as second language. Then after receiving consulting from the WC MN SBDC for several months, on February 27, 2015 China Panda opened its doors and Angel's dream became a reality.

For more information on China Panda, visit their Facebook Page (China Panda Morris) or visit their website, <u>www.chinapandaglenwood.com</u>.

If interested in the consulting services of the WC MN SBDC, visit their website at offuttschoolofbusiness.org/sbdc.

West Central SBDC Funding Partners

HOST INSTITUTION

CONCORDIA COLLEGE

OFFUTT SCHOOL of BUSINESS

PLATINUM PARTNERS





SILVER PARTNERS

Alexandria Area Economic Development Commission • Barnesville Economic Development Authority
Bell State Bank & Trust • City of Moorhead - Economic Development Authority
Minnesota Business Finance Corporation • Moorhead Business Association
Susan and Peter Geib

Reflects 2014-2016 funding support.

Helping Businesses Start, Grow and Succeed

WEST CENTRAL REGION MINNESOTA SBDC